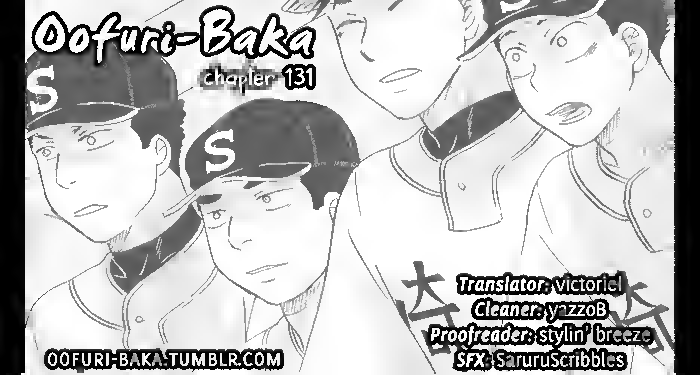
Oofuri-Baka
chapter 131
Translator: victoriel
Cleaner: yazzoB
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SFX: SaruruScribbles
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I'LL WAIT UNTIL THE COUNT IS 2-2!
HE HAS SEVERAL KINDS OF PITCHES BUT NOT A WINNING PITCH YOU COULD CALL A "WINNING PITCH"
1—1
131: The 4 cities tournament 2

T/n the count is 1 ball - 1 strike

T/n making the pitcher throw more pitches

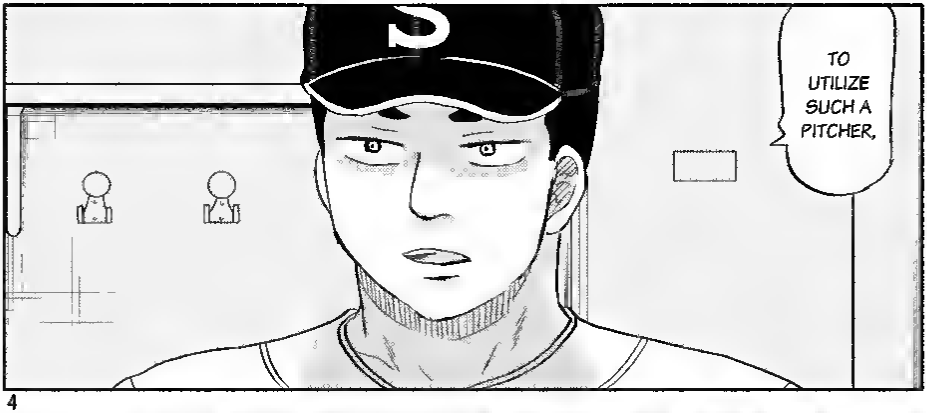
2

I SEE
SO THAT'S WHY IT FELT LIKE HIS FORM HAD GOTTEN SMALLER
IF THE FORM GOT SMALLER, DOES THAT MEAN THE PITCHER GOT BETTER?
COR-RECT
PITCHING USING YOUR BODY ALL OUT IS POWERFUL, BUT IT'S MOSTLY JUST WASTEFUL

IS THAT SO?
SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

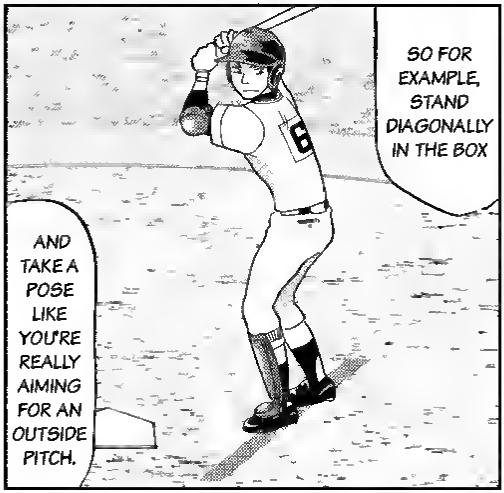
THINK HOW TO MAKE HIM THROW PITCHES YOU WANT
WE HAVEN'T FACED THEM TO THE POINT THEY'D KNOW OUR FAVORITE COURSES,
SO MAKE HIM THROW THERE

CATCH
THEIR PITCHER ISN'T THE TYPE WHO CAN PRESSURE YOU WITH POWER,
BUT HE HAS A LOT OF BREAKING BALLS AND GOOD CONTROL
EH?
H-
HOW?


TO UTILIZE SUCH A PITCHER,

MAKES A LEAD TO FIT THE BATTER
THAT CATCH-ER

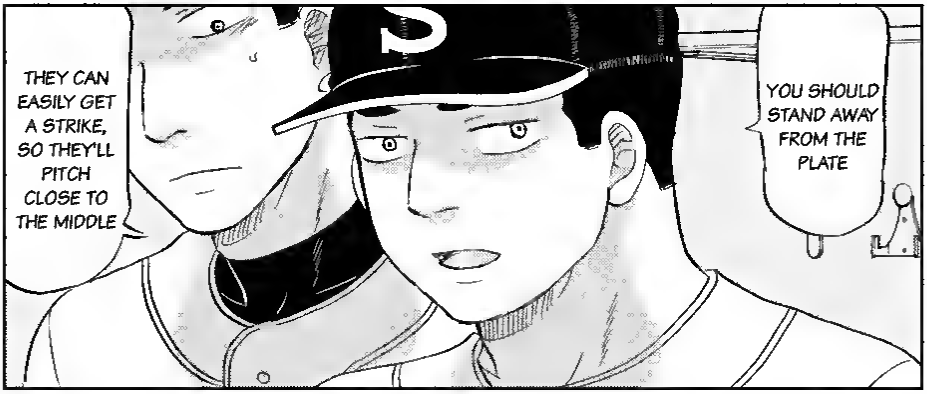
SO?
O~~H?
8
9
6

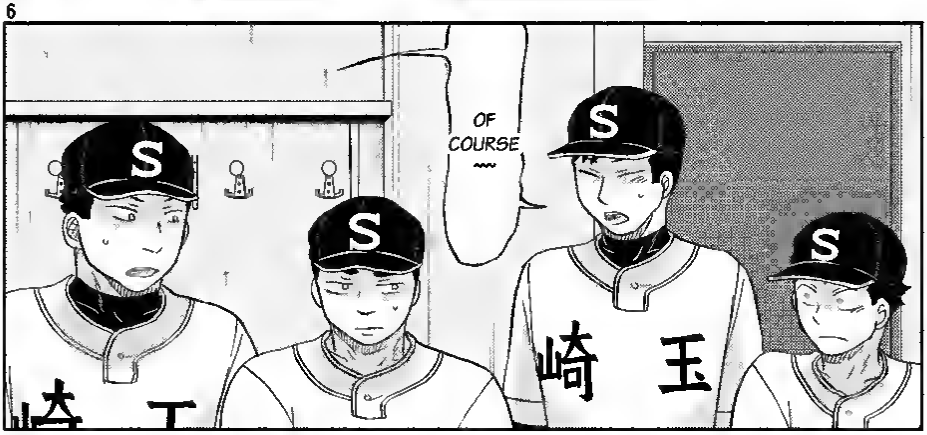

SO FOR EXAMPLE, STAND DIAGONALLY IN THE BOX
AND TAKE A POSE LIKE YOU'RE REALLY AIMING FOR AN OUTSIDE PITCH.

HARADA-SAN'S FAVORITE COURSE IS HIGH INSIDE,

I-
I SEE!
IF YOU LEAN OVER EVEN MORE, THEY MIGHT PITCH HIGH INSIDE TO STRAIGHTEN YOU UP

NO
DON'T ASK FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE
"RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE"
DOWN THE PIPE IS OUT OF THE QUESTION, RIGHT?!
TOMO, WHAT ABOUT RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE?!

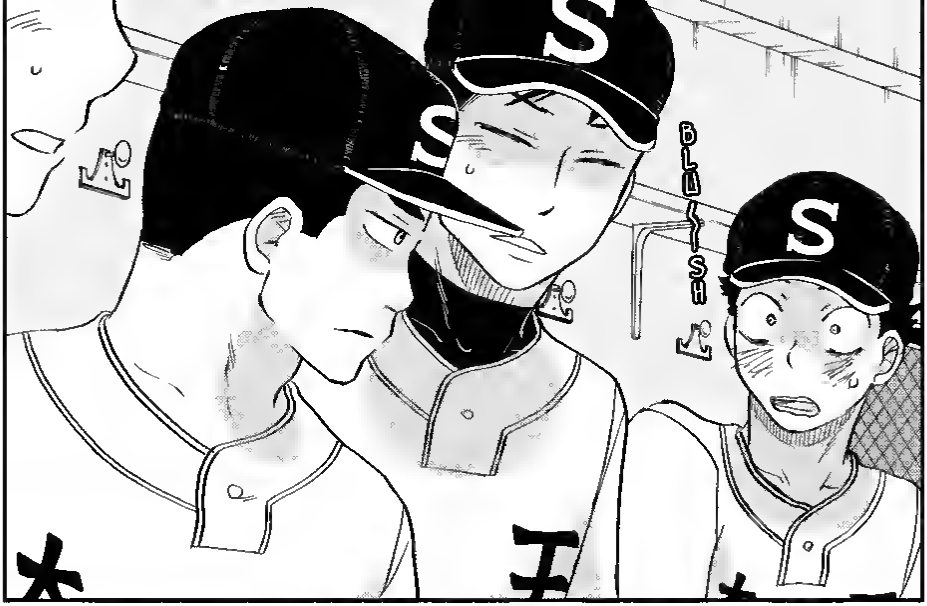

THEY CAN EASILY GET A STRIKE, SO THEY'LL PITCH CLOSE TO THE MIDDLE
YOU SHOULD STAND AWAY FROM THE PLATE


OF COURSE ~~~

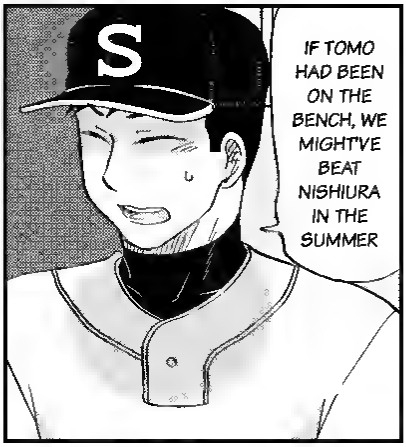
BUT WHAT ABOUT HITTING IT?
EVEN IF IT IS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STRIKE ZONE,
IT WON'T BE "RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE" FOR ME, IF I'M STANDING AWAY FROM THE PLATE
OH, YEAH

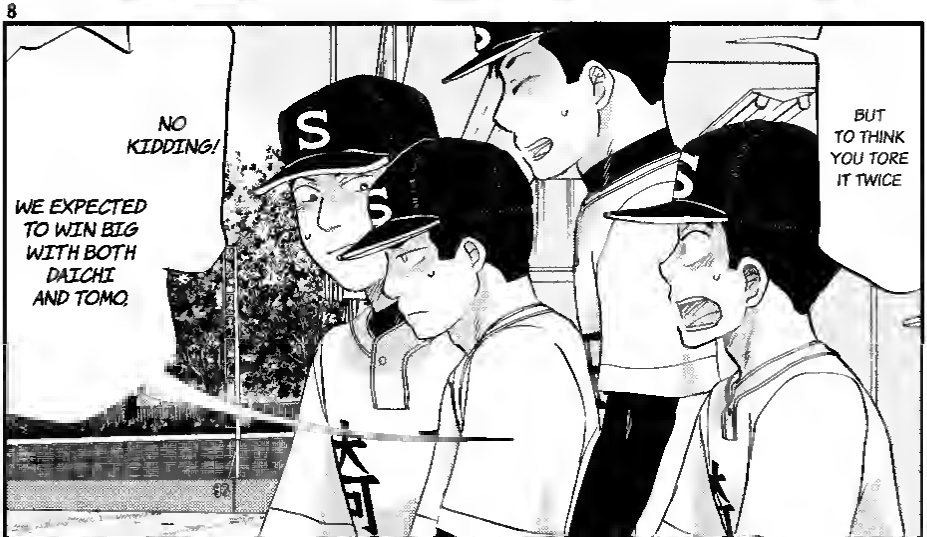
YOU STEP INSIDE AND HIT TO THE OPPOSITE FIELD*
SUGI,
AS YOU ARE RIGHT NOW YOU WON'T SWING LATE EVEN AT THAT PITCHER'S FASTBALLS

T/n To avoid confusion, hitting to right field for a right-handed batter and to left field for a left-handed batter


BLUSH

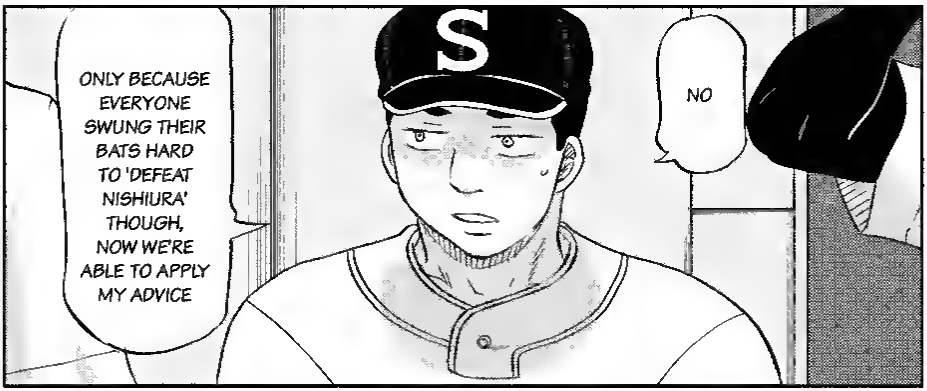
NO, DON'T APOLO-GIZE
ER... SORRY


IF TOMO HAD BEEN ON THE BENCH, WE MIGHT'VE BEAT NISHIURA IN THE SUMMER


NO KIDDING!
WE EXPECTED TO WIN BIG WITH BOTH DAICHI AND TOMO.
BUT TO THINK YOU TORE IT TWICE

BUT YOU TORE YOUR ACHILLES IN JUNE AND WERE ANNIHI-LATED FROM THE SUMMER QUALIFI-ERS!
MOREOVER, YOU TORE IT AGAIN RIGHT BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT AND HAD TO BE HOSPITALIZED DURING IT!
I SAID I WAS SORRY...
SO, TOMO, YOU DIDN'T REALLY MISS ANY OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL BASE-BALL CAREER
USUALLY FIRST-YEARS DON'T START PLAYING UNTIL FALL
SMILE
YES...
SO IT SEEMS
BUT FULL RECOVERY IN 4 MONTHS IS PRETTY QUICK, ISN'T IT?
SMILE
崎 玉

AFTER ALL, IT WAS A CALLED GAME
YOU'RE RIGHT~
...BUT EVEN IF I HAD BEEN THERE,
I STILL THINK OUR SUMMER WOULD HAVE ENDED THERE

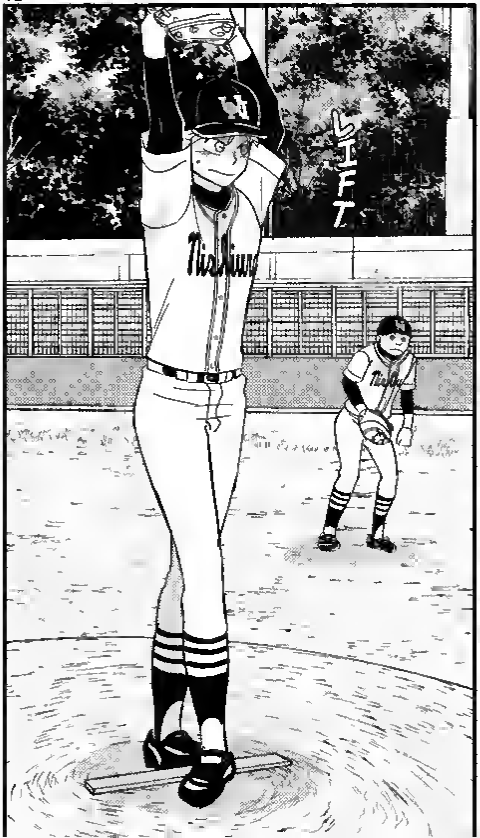

ONLY BECAUSE EVERYONE SWUNG THEIR BATS HARD TO 'DEFEAT NISHIURA' THOUGH, NOW WE'RE ABLE TO APPLY MY ADVICE
NO

OHH...

WHOA!
LOOK, EVEN SAWA-SAN FOUGHT FOR A FULL COUNT
YOU'RE RIGHT!
HE'S KEEPING AT IT!
HE COULDN'T DO THAT IN SUMMER, RIGHT?

TIME TO HIT NOW!!
SAWA! YOU'VE REALLY HUNG IN THERE!

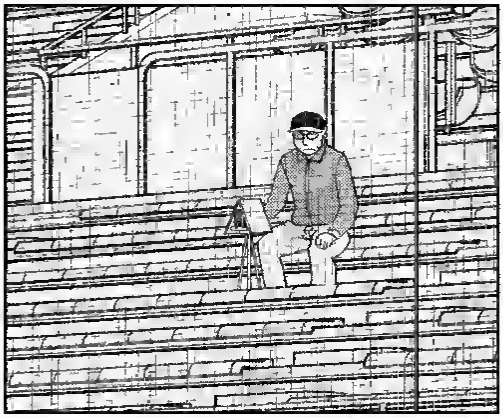
T/n: see the notes after the chapter



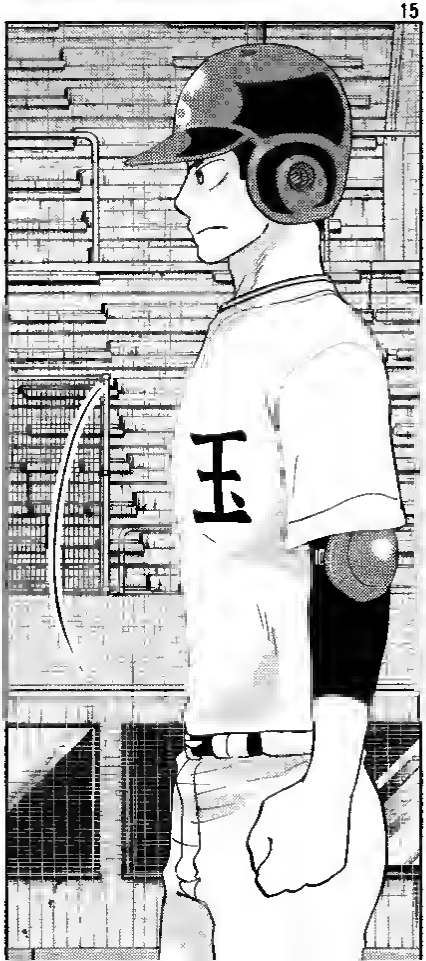
TWIST
TURN

SWOO
WAS THAT!?
崎
SH
CATCH
WHAT...
14
S
S
S
大河
大河

S



CARE-
LESS
PITCH?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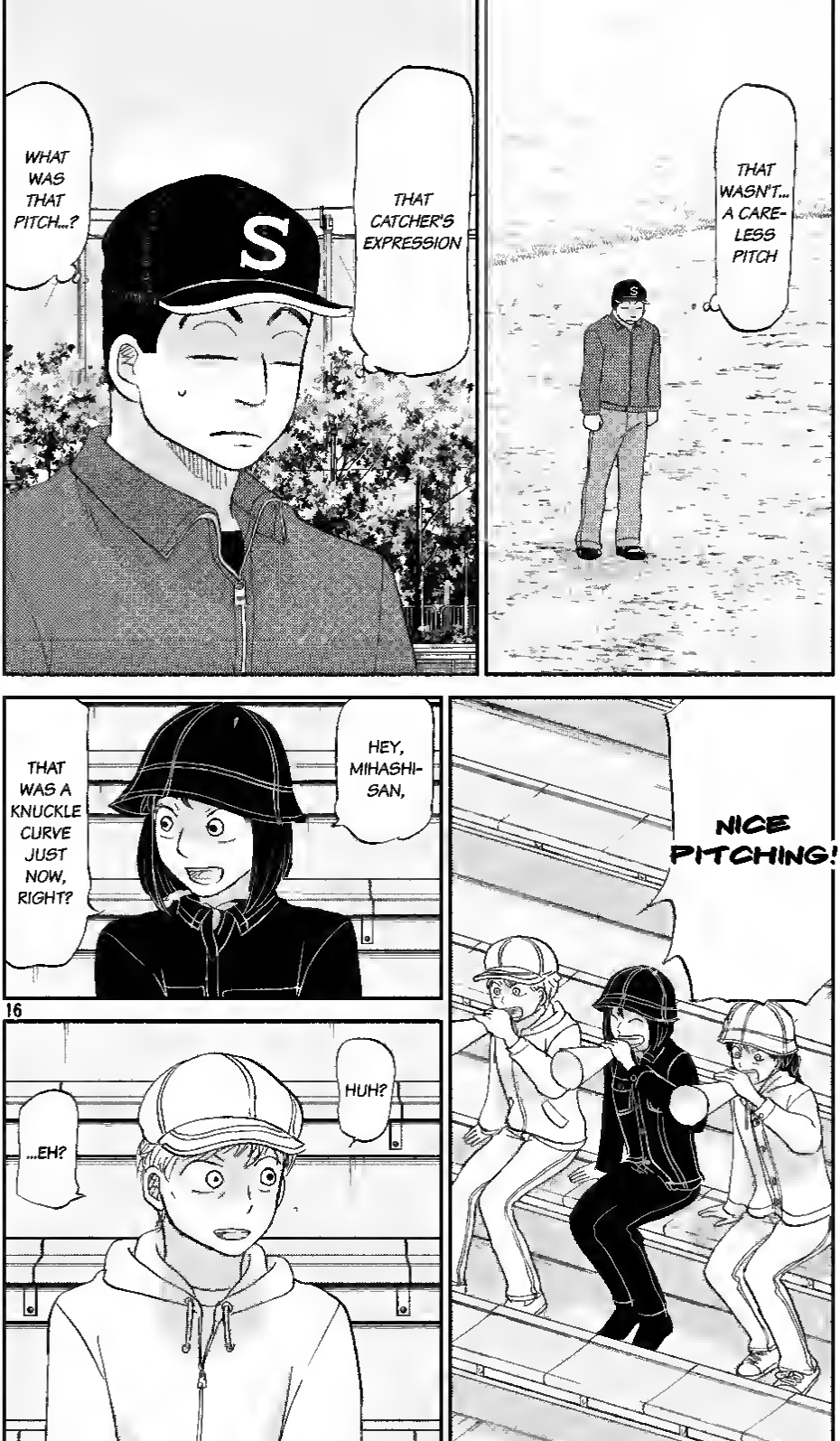

WHAT WAS THAT PITCH...?
THAT CATCHER'S EXPRESSION
THAT WASN'T... A CARELESS PITCH
THAT WAS A KNUCKLE CURVE JUST NOW, RIGHT?
HEY, MIHASHI-SAN,
NICE PITCHING!
...EH?
HUH?

IT SEEMS TAKA WAS EAGER TO TRY IT OUT
I HEAR HE'S BEEN PRACTIC-ING IT SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL?
HE SURE PICKED AN AMAZ-ING PITCH, THAT KNUCKLE CURVE
?
?

I WONDER IF THEY WON'T CHECK IT IF IT'S JUST THAT ONE TIME
ARC'S VIDEO SCOUTS ARE PROB-ABLY HERE
CLINK
CLINK

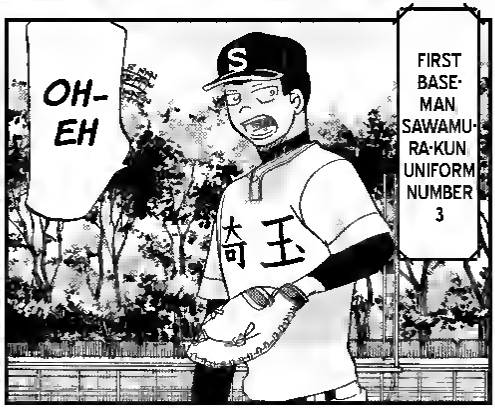
?
??
IT'S SO EXCITING, RIGHT?!
IT'S REALLY RARE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL-ER TO PITCH IT!
HUH ?

BOTTOM OF THE 1ST.
SAKITAMA HIGH SCHOOL ON DEFENSE
BUT IT WON'T MATTER IF, BY NOT USING IT, WE LOSE NOW AND CAN'T PLAY ARC
IT'D BE BETTER TO HIDE IT UNTIL THE MATCH AGAINST THEM,
CLINK
CLINK

BALLS IN!!
CATCHER, SAKURA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 2

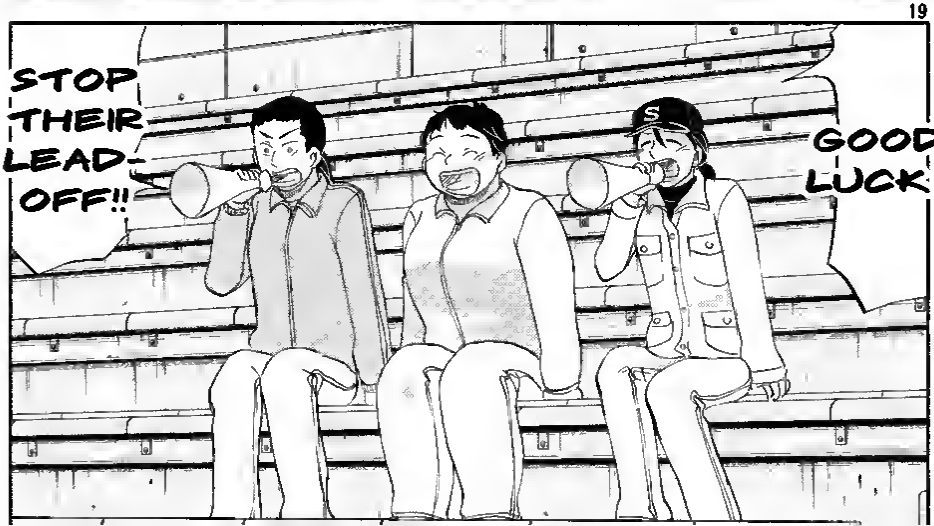
CATCH
PITCHER, ICHIHARA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 1

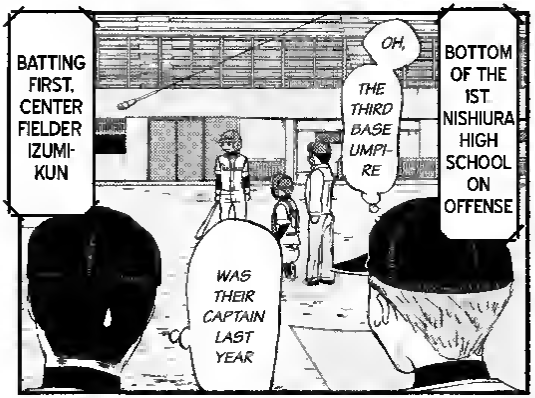
THIRD BASE-MAN, SUGITA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 5

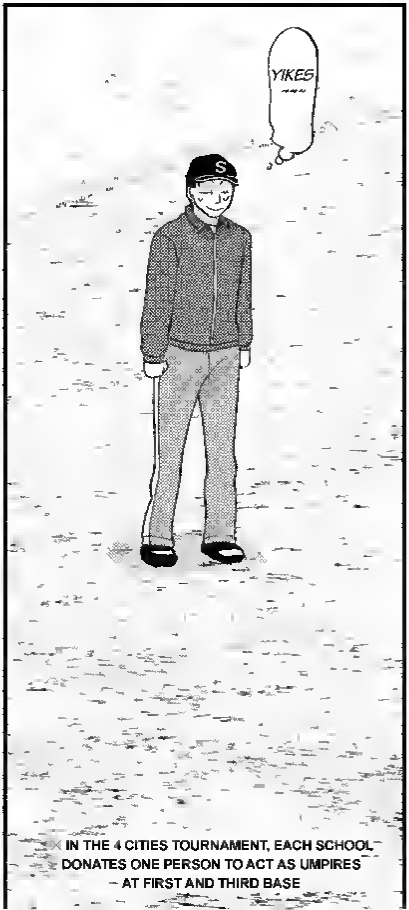

OH-EH
FIRST BASE-MAN SAWAMURA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 3

SECOND BASE-MAN, FURUSAWA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 4
THROW

RIGHT FIELDER ISHINAMI-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 9
SHORT-STOP HARADA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 6
LEFT FIELDER, TANAKA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 7
CENTER FIELDER, KAMIMU-RA-KUN UNIFORM NUMBER 8


STOP THEIR LEAD-OFF!!
GOOD LUCK!!


BATTING FIRST, CENTER FIELDER IZUMI-KUN
OH, THE THIRD BASE UMPI-RE
BOTTOM OF THE 1ST NISHIURA HIGH SCHOOL ON OFFENSE
WAS THEIR CAPTAIN LAST YEAR

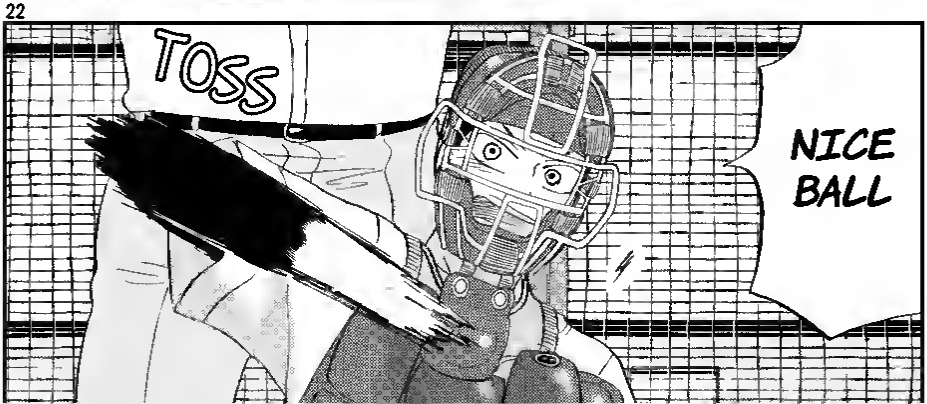


※ IN THE 4 CITIES TOURNAMENT, EACH SCHOOL DONATES ONE PERSON TO ACT AS UMPIRES – AT FIRST AND THIRD BASE

THIS GUY MADE 2 HITS, BUT THEY WERE BOTH FROM A FASTBALL
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, DAICHI?
THEIR LEADOFF BAT 3RD IN THE SUMMER
NISHIURA'S ROSTER HASN'T CHANGED, YET THEY CHANGED THEIR LINEUP, HUH?
THIS GUY BATTED RIGHT-HANDED... BUT TURNED OUT TO BE A SWITH-HITTER
HE BATS FROM THE LEFT BE-CAUSE HE'S LEADOFF

OH,
HE DIDN'T SHAKE THE SIGN OFF
SO LET'S MAKE THE FIRST PITCH A STRIKE
PAT
PAT
A LEAD-OFF AT HIS FIRST AT-BAT WILL WAIT AND SEE
'KAY

TWIST
LI
FT
SMACK
STRIKE!


TOSS
NICE
BALL

GOTTA KEEP THE INTERVAL BETWEEN SIGNS SHORT
PAT PAT
DON'T BE AFRAID AND PITCH!
1
TWIST
THAT PITCH WAS OUTSIDE, SO THIS TIME IT'LL BE INSIDE
STRIKE

SMACK

LET'S GO WITH A SCREW-BALL
PAT
PAT
YES! HE LET IT BY
STRIKE!
STAMP
OKAY
NO NEED TO WASTE A PITCH!
TWI
ST
WH
OOSH

NICE PITCH-ING!!
SWOOSH
THWAP

DON'T MIND!
THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HIT A SCREWBALL LAST TIME WAS HANAI-KUN
HE RAISES HIS ELBOW TOO AND DOESN'T THRUST OUT HIS CHEST ANY MORE
HIS PITCHING FORM IS SHARPER

WHICH MEANS WE STICK TO THE BASICS: DON'T MISS A STRIKE AND SWING!
BUT
HE CAN'T MAKE HIS EVERY PITCH A SCREW-BALL
PLEASE!
BATTING 2ND, FIRST BASE-MAN OKI-KUN
Nishiura

THE CALLED GAME IN THE SUMMER TOURNAMENT IS A THING OF THE PAST. NISHIURA BECAME THE TEAM THAT WAS STUDIED THROUGH AND THROUGH. LET'S TEST THE TEAM'S POTENTIAL!

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

HIGUCHI ASA

CHAPTER 131

We moved! They say moving shortens your lifespan, but it is really nervewracking, isn't it?... I felt more dead than alive until we connected the internet and printer. Now we mostly tidied up, and there's a middle school next to us, so I rather enjoy watching the sports classes, beginning with the baseball club.

TRANSLATION NOTE

We've changed the name of one of Mihashi's pitches, shootball, to its Japanese name, shuuto. The shuuto is a popular pitch in Japan and is not well understood in the English-speaking world. Although shootball is one English translation for it, a lot of English speakers call it by its Japanese name because of how unique it is.

Merry Christmas!
from Oofuri-baka